

**STATE ENHANCED 9-1-1
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 21, 2001**

Members Present:

Chair Chris Fischer, APCO
Mike Akin, *Association of Washington Cities - West*
Dan Aycock, *Member at Large*
JoAnn Boggs, *Small Rural Counties - East*
Dave Cowardin, *Washington State Association of Fire Chiefs*
Jack Cvitanovic, *Department of Health*
Patty Danner, *Large Urban Counties - East*
Marlys Davis, *King County*
Doug Gehrke, *Qwest*
Diane Harrington, *Verizon*
Jon Kaino, *Washington State Association of Counties - West*
Marty Knorr, *Washington State Patrol*
Dan LaRoche, *Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs*
Jeanne Massingham, *Washington State Emergency Management Association*
Jim Merritt, *Washington Fire Commissioners Association*
Chris Johnson, *VoiceStream Wireless*
Jim Potts, *Fire Protection Policy Board*
Jim Quackenbush, *NENA*
Marj Williams, *Large Urban Counties West*
Naomi Wu, *Small Rural Counties - West*

Alternate Members Present:

Mike Fagan, *Washington Independent Telephone Association*
Bob Connell, *Verizon*
Dave Griffith, *WUTC*
Steve Reinke, *Small Rural Counties - East*
Dennis Snook, *Washington State Association of Counties - East*
Patti VonBargen, *Association of Washington Cities – East*
Naomi Wu, *Small Rural Counties - West*

Guests Present:

Cindy Barnd, Cathy Bevans, Sophia Byrd, Bob Connell, Jon Didion, Dennis English, Eileen Ervin, Stephani Fritts, Tom Griffith, Selena Hopkins, Rose Parr, Ed Powell, Lanette Scapillato,

Tom Shaughnessy, Rick Smith, Deb Welsch, Fred Wilcox, John Wilding

State Office Staff Present:

Bob Oenning, Teresa Lewis, Dave Irwin, Kurt Hardin

Welcome and Introductions:

Chris Fischer called the meeting to order at 9:35 am. Members and guests introduced themselves.

There were two amendments to the May 17, 2001 minutes: 1) located at the bottom of page four: it should be the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, not Training. 2) located on page two under Wireless, paragraph one, last sentence, it should read 'Marlys stated that she talked to Jim Nixon and that the carriers have received the ruling and are considering what action they should take.

Review and Approval of Minutes (May 17, 2001):

Dan LaRoche motioned to approve the amended May 17, 2001 meetings as written. **Doug Gehrke** seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Old Business:

Chris Fischer talked about the response from the Adjutant General to the letter requesting the return of one FTE to the E911 program. The response letter was included in the packets. [Encl 1] Bob Oenning, noted that the General took a special interest in this issue. Chris went into further discussion about the Adjutant General's response.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

Strategic Planning – Marj Williams

The committee met on June 6th. The sub-committee thought that they had the Strategic Plan completed and were ready to present it to the Advisory Committee today, but is deferring pending discussion about the WAC Revision process. The next meeting will be on July 11, 2001 at the Radisson Hotel at 9:30am.

WAC Revision – Steve Reinke

The committee met last on June 6th and June 7th. In the new RCW language there is some flexibility for the state office to create policies. The challenge is to resolve language from the RCW, with the existing WAC, with the Strategic Planning issues, with the formula concept, with the statewide issues, and with the commitments that have been made to various counties around the state.

The WAC Revision committee recommended that the state office develop 12-month contracts with the counties to continue support at the existing level and this has been started. Steve Reinke, the chairperson, gave a presentation on the status of the WAC Revision sub-committee [Encl 2]. Steve also included a packet of five spreadsheets to indicate the current County Operational Assistance. [Encl 3]. There was a revised version of two of the spreadsheets handed out at the meeting. [Encl 4]. Steve stated that the process for the WAC language has progressed with the framework. After Steve's presentation, he asked for guidance from the Advisory Committee on where to go from here. Discussion ensued regarding budgets for the counties, the fund balance, a reasonable reserve, and the formula basis for assisting the counties. There was a debate on whether there had actually been a vote on the formula of a specific amount of money going to the counties. It was determined that a vote had actually occurred in October of 2000, recommending a specific amount of money going to the counties. Jeanne Massingham had a copy of the motion and provided it to Chris to be reread to the

committee. The motion read as follows; 'Jim Quackenbush moved to recommend adopting the operational assistance formula as presented, lower the database cutoff from 200 to 150 thousand dollars and adjusting the call-takers salary allowance accordingly. Dan LaRoche seconded the motion. John Wilding opposed the motion and the motioned carried. Dated October 19, 2000.

Marlys Davis stated that the original intent of the legislation, when the voters approved it in 1991, was to create a state pot that every phone user in the state would pay into. This state E911 tax would help support E911 in small counties that could not afford to run E911 on their own. It established that the counties are the ones responsible to provide E911 services, and not the State. The intent was to have the money flow through the state office to the counties. When looking at the budget and the strategic plan, it looks like that money is to stay at the state office for overhead and projects. This cuts down on the available money for the counties. Marlys requested a break down of the state office cost to see what is in there and maybe cut some of the projects and overhead to make more money available to the counties. She also stated that she agrees that there needs to be some accountability to make sure that this money is being spent on the E911 system.

Kurt Hardin stated that we would put together a detailed report of the figures of how the state E911 tax is distributed. Marlys requested that the state office put together these figures and present them at the next meeting.

Marj Williams noted that the original intent of Referendum 42, was not to cover salaries. If we are going to add salaries as an eligible item for anyone then it needs to be done in a manner that doesn't break the bank.

Bob Oenning wanted to go back to some recommendations that were decided within the Advisory Committee. The first were inter-tandem transfers, the Criminal Justice Training Commission, Language Line, Public Education materials and numerous other things. These are established projects and cutting the state office back puts these projects and contracts, which came from the strategic plan in jeopardy.

Jim Quackenbush stated that accountability is the key to the success of this program. Speaking for Thurston County only, he supports the formula to equally reduce everyone to be at the same level, so that all are able to receive some money back.

Jim Potts wanted to remind everyone that we needed some legislation for a couple of things. One being able to keep the ability to pay for salary assistance in small counties and second, giving the state office some ability to enter into statewide services. There has been no discussion on regionalization. Some legislators want to know what happened to that. He also wanted to state that if we (Advisory Committee) cannot make what we got from the legislation this year work, we would not have the credibility to go back next year and ask for anything regarding the wireless tax. There is also a tremendous amount of creditability on the line right now. Chris Fischer also reminded everyone of the response from the Adjutant General regarding the Advisory Committees request for more FTE's, and today's discussion is centered around cutting the state office, raises some creditability issues there too.

Bob Connell wanted to caution everyone that around the country where there is no state 911 guidance the quality of 911 service and system suffers greatly. He used the difference between Oregon and Idaho as an example.

Steve Reinke, wanted the state office to elaborate on the subtle language change to the Legislation that was just passed and how that would effect what is going on with the WAC and the Strategic plan. He also stated that we need to stay united and make sure that all the counties are getting the help they need, so that when we go back to the legislation we are perceived as being united as a state.

Bob Oenning noted that the changes include the state entering into statewide contracts and how additional money could be spent. He noted that the counties still have primary responsibility, but the state office, now has greater statewide responsibility.

Chris Fischer stated that her perception of the entire comments thus far center on the Strategic Plan document. She stated that maybe the committee needs to take a look at the plan and decide what needs to be done collectively by the state and what makes sense to be done individually, as a county.

John Wilding recommended that the state take over a statewide database, so that money can be freed up to move back to the counties.

Jon Kaino stated that if we as an advisory committee are going to make decisions on any kind of budget information, he (we) need more information on the budget and where all the money goes. He stated that an 8 million reserve is not acceptable; he said that a 1 million dollar reserve is more than enough. We should definitely reevaluate that fund balance and integrate it into the budget over the next 5 to 10 years to get the reserve down to an amount that is acceptable.

Doug Gehrke recommended that the strategic planning committee go back and decide what should be a state responsibility and what should be a local responsibility and then bring those recommendations back to this committee. Then recommend where the fund balance should be spent.

Jim Quackenbush motioned that the strategic planning committee go back and revisit the roles of the counties vs the state office in regards to 911 and to ensure that there is no overlapping and make recommendations back to the Advisory Committee on the roles of each. Doug Gehrke seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Jim Quackenbush motioned that the WAC rewrite subcommittee to come up with how much should we leave in the reserve and how much do we spend and over how long. It was stated that the chair of the Advisory Board has already directed the WAC committee to do this, so there was no motion needed. It was stated that the committee needs to bring back as much data as they can get their hands on and bring it back to the Advisory Committee Board so that they can make a decision on where to go next.

Wireless – Marlys Davis

There was a request for the FCC to clarify who is responsible for portions of the cost. The FCC responded back and stated that the selective router is the demarcation point and the PSAP is responsible to pay from selective router to PSAP, only. Since that response, four wireless carriers (Verizon, VoiceStream, Qwest, and Nextel) have filed a petition for reconsideration with the FCC on that ruling.

Marlys talked about the routing of wireless calls and should they go to trunk ID or a 24-hour telephone number Dave Irwin sent out an email to all the counties asking for information

regarding wireless calls and does your PSAP take wireless calls and are they routed via trunk ID or 24-hour number?

There was lengthy discussion on ACN (Automatic Crash Notification) and telematics on how to route those calls. Laurie Johnson from Spokane County has decided to treat those calls like alarms and is directing those calls to their alarm line. In King County they are directing those calls to the 10-digit wireless PSAPs, so in both cases they are not being received as 911 calls. These calls are already coming in and if the counties have not made a decision on how to handle these kinds of calls it was suggested that they do so soon.

There was a request from Marlys to the counties to make a decision on the Phase I service agreements, whether to be individual by counties or to have a statewide service agreement.

Because of the length of setup timing with delivering 10- and 20- digits, Call Associated Signaling (CAS) is not a viable option for the state. There needs to be some solution to this problem.

Marlys stated that there have been a number of problems receiving security information on wireless calls, some information taking as long as an hour and half to retrieve. This is unacceptable. She handed out a copy of Federal Laws, which requires wireless carriers to supply vital information in a timely manner, for the purpose of delivering emergency response. The Federal Law states that they have to do this, so the National NENA Wireless group is working on this issue and will continue to work on this issue until it is cleaned up.

The Wireless Funding bill has not moved. The bill was moved for consideration to the special session on the Senate floor, but was sent back to Rules, which means that they do not intend to deal with the bill at this time. Jim Potts stated that he and Sophia Byrd have been trying to find out if the bill was going to move.

Several people from the Attorney General's Office may attend the next wireless meeting and Marlys will put them on the agenda.

The next wireless meeting will be on July 12, 2001 at the Radisson Hotel.

Public Education – Marlys Davis

Marlys reported the contract with Roz & Company is completed and signed. The Backcountry brochure and three brochures on phone safety for wireless phones have been approved and are at the State Printers being produced and will be available within the next month or so.

Training – Chris Fischer

Chris had nothing to report at this time.

Technical – Doug Gehrke

Doug reported on the following technical issues:

- In October 2001, there will be mandatory 10-digit dialing on the westside of the state at the same time as the new area code (564) is being implemented.
- October is the absolute deadline for making sure that the equipment at the PSAPs is upgraded and able to accept 10 digits.
- For the PSAPs that do not have Qwest CPE, they need to work through their vendor. Qwest needs to coordinate with PSAPs so that they can be able to do a 10-digit retrieval

from the database and that they are able to send 10-digits from the selective router. Qwest will not be responsible for upgrading this equipment. If you do not have Qwest CPE, please let Dave Irwin know how much it is going to cost to be able to accomplish this.

- Qwest has completed the work on the inter-tandem routing in eastern Washington and it is working now.

STATE OFFICE REPORTS:

Legislative Update:

The Wireless tax bill, SSB 6034, will be coming up again next session.

At the National level in Washington D.C., there have been a number of congressional hearings and major committee hearings on 911 issues recently.

Financial Status:

Bob Oenning reported on the State Office Financial Status [Encl.5-7].

WSP Issues:

Dave Irwin reported that all the equipment has been installed at all four sites. They have started to train personnel for those sites and it should be completed this week on the equipment. The cutover is after the 4th of July. Marty Knorr wanted to extend his appreciation for the \$415 thousand that was appropriated for the four comcenters in Vancouver, Wenatchee, Yakima and Spokane. There were a few transfer problems with the counties, but those are being worked out.

National Issues:

Public Safety Associations (PSA) – NASNA, NENA, and APCO have joined together to create PSA to gain more strength on a number of issues.

FCC filing on PBX is at NENA and pressure is being applied to send it to the FCC.

NEW Business:

Patty Danner asked who is responsible for making the wireless and wireline companies pay the 911 tax. Bob Oenning stated that for wireline the state Department of Revenue can help, but for the wireless counties are alone.

The next meeting will be held THURSDAY, JULY 19, 2001 at THE RADISSON SEATAC HOTEL.

ACTION ITEMS:

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